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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Applicant: Steven W. Lundberg et al. Examiner: Thuy Pardo
Serial No.: 09/658795 Group Art Unit: 2175
Filed: September 11, 2000 Docket: 750.006US1
Title: Transaction-Based Object-Oriented Multipart Database Method and Apparatus

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant has reviewed the Restriction Requirement mailed January 3, 2003, wherein the Examiner has requested election of one of the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-9 and 17, drawn to a method and apparatus for encoding and decoding transaction objects into and from electronic messages, classified in Class 707, subclass 102.
- II. Claims 10-16, drawn to a method for exchanging transactions between a service provider and a consumer in a distributed computer system, classified in Class 707, subclass 10.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects, without traverse, the invention of Group II (Claims 10-16), drawn to a method for exchanging transactions between a service provider and a consumer in a distributed computer system. Applicant cancels remaining claims 1-9 and 17, without prejudice or disclaimer, and reserves the right to reintroduce them in one or more divisional applications at a later date.

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect that Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9 and 17, amended claim 15 solely to correct spelling, and added new claims 18-34 drawn to the elected invention of Group II. New claim 18 is a means-plus-function claim to be interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112 paragraph 6, having means drawn to the last two elements of elected claim 10, and thus is supported by claim 10 and the now-cancelled claim 17. New dependent system claims 19-29 depend on claim 18. Claim 19 is supported by original claim 11. Claim 20 is supported by original claim 12. Claim 21 is supported by original claim 13. Claim 22 is supported by original claim 1. Claim 23 is

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We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- A return postcard.
 AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT (9 Pages).
Please charge additional fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0743 in the amount of \$36.00 to cover the fee for additional claims as calculated below.

If the additional fee is required due to changes to the claims, the fee has been calculated as follows:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Present Extra	Rate	Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS	24	-	20	4	x 9.00 =	\$36.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3	-	4	0	x 42.00 =	\$0.00
[]MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED						\$0.00
TOTAL						\$36.00

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 3rd day of February, 2003.

Charles A. Lemaire
Name

Charles A. Lemaire
Signature

Customer Number 21186

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.
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